ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The method and device for extracting a specified image subject change an extracting condition of an extracting algorithm of a subsequent stage so as to be adapted to an extraction result by the extracting algorithm of a precedent stage, when a plurality of specified image subject extracting algorithms are successively implemented. Moreover, at the time of performing a plurality of specified image subject extracting algorithms in each of a plurality of stages by means of parallel processing, these method and device manage extraction states of each step and qualify extraction processing conditions in the subsequent stage in accordance with the extraction states in the precedent stages. Further these method and device perform a vote in an N-dimensional space of image characteristic quantity for each extraction area by the specified image subject extracting algorithm and then perform weighting of degree of certainty as the specified image subject based on an aggregation value of the vote within a section area for aggregation in the N-dimensional space. As a result, these method and device perform the specified image subject extraction with a high precision and good efficiency in correspondence with various states of images in a digital or analog photoprinter